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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/675,063	09/30/2003	Dany Sylvain	15967ROUS01U	5841
23644 7590 03/05/2009 BARNES & THORNBURG LLP P.O. BOX 2786 CHICAGO, IL 60690-2786				
EXAMINER				
BARQADLE, YASIN M				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2456				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/05/2009		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

Patent-ch@btlaw.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/675,063

Applicant(s)

SYLVAIN ET AL.

Examiner

YASIN M. BARQADLE

Art Unit

2456

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 December 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on December 19, 2008 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. The amendment filed on December 19, 2008 has been fully considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection.

- Claims 1 and 2-13 are presented for examination.
- Claims 15-17 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Casey et al (USPN 6493349 herein "Casey" in view of Boden et al (USPN 6832322 herein "Boden").

As per claim 1, Casey teaches a virtual private network (VPN) gateway for interfacing two or more virtual private networks (VPNs) to one or more external networks, the external network or networks having a different addressing scheme or schemes to those of the VPNs, the VPN gateway having a network address translator (NAT) shared by the VPNs for converting VPN addresses of entities within the VPNs to addresses of the external network (fig. 2 and col. 3, lines 27-56 and col. 4, lines 8-56).

Although Casey shows substantial features of the claimed invention including VPN gateway with NAT functionality, Casey does not explicitly show where the NAT comprises source and destination.

Nonetheless, this feature is well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Casey, as evidenced by Boden USPN. (6832322).

In analogous art, Boden whose invention is about System and method for network address translation integration with IP security, discloses where the source and destination NAT.

Giving the teaching of Boden, a person of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and the advantage of modifying Casey by employing the source and destination NAT of Boden in order to provide a non-redundant method to configure and maintain address association for certain VPN NAT type such that multiple VPN NAT rules may be specified per VPN connection.

The NAT of Casey in view of Boden are arranged such that entities in the external networks appear to one of the VPNs to have an address within an address range of the respective VPN (fig. 2 and col. 3, lines 27-56 and col. 4, lines 8-56. see also Col. 5, lines 4-28).

As per claim 3, Casey teaches the VPN gateway of claim 2, the entities in the external networks comprising at least one of: a call server, a SIP proxy, a web server, a storage server, a video server, a mail server, an H.323 gateway, a telephony client, or a telephony media gateway (col.5, lines 5-28).

As per claim 4, Casey teaches the VPN gateway of claim 1, the external network address used for each VPN entity being unique in the corresponding external network (col.6, lines 38-56).

As per claim 5, Casey teaches the VPN gateway of claim 1 having one or more physical or logical interface ports, and being arranged to determine an identity of each of the VPNs based on which one or more physical or logical Interface port on the VPN gateway is used to couple the respective VPN (fig. 2 and col. 3, lines 27-56 and col. 4, lines 8-56).

As per claim 6, Casey teaches the VPN gateway of claim 1, the VPNs each comprising a part of an Internet Protocol (IP) network (fig. 3).

As per claim 7, Boden teaches the VPN gateway of claim 6 where the multiple VPNs use overlapping private IP addressing schemas (fig. 7)

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As per claim 8, Casey teaches the VPN gateway of claim 6, being arranged to provide protocol conversion.

As per claim 9, Casey teaches the VPN gateway of claim 1, the VPNs being arranged to use at least one of ATM, Frame Relay, MPLS or IP (fig. 3).

As per claim 10, Casey teaches the VPN gateway of claim 1 arranged to couple communication sessions having one end in one of the VPNs and another end in the external network, the sessions being controlled by a server (see figures 2 and 3).

As per claim 11, Casey teaches the VPN gateway of claim 10, the communication sessions being one of data sessions, telephony calls, or video calls (col.5, lines 5-28).

As per claim 12, Casey teaches the VPN gateway of claim 10 arranged to communicate to the external network entities the VPN identity associated with a given communication session (fig. 2 and col. 3, lines 27-56 and col. 4, lines 8-56).

As per claims 13, Cases teaches a method of using a virtual private network (VPN) gateway to interface two or more VPNs to one or more external networks, the external network or networks having different addressing schemes to those of the VPNs, the VPN gateway having a network address translator (NAT), the method having the steps of using the VPN gateway for passing information between the two or more VPNs and the one or more external networks, and

converting VPN addresses of entities within the two or more VPNs to addresses of the external network and such that entities in the external networks appear to the respective VPN to have an address within an address range of the respective VPN. (See fig 2 and 3; col. 3, lines 27-56 and col. 4, lines 8-56).

Although Casey shows substantial features of the claimed invention including VPN gateway with NAT functionality, Casey does not explicitly show where the NAT comprises source and destination.

Nonetheless, this feature is well known in the art and would have been an obvious modification of the system disclosed by Casey, as evidenced by Boden USPN. (6832322).

In analogous art, Boden whose invention is about System and method for network address translation integration with IP security, disclose NAT comprises source and destination (fig. 2 and fig. 5).

Giving the teaching of Boden, a person of ordinary skill in the art would have readily recognized the desirability and the advantage of modifying Casey by employing the source and destination NAT of Boden in order to provide a non-redundant method to configure and maintain address association for certain VPN NAT type such that multiple VPN NAT rules may be specified per VPN connection.

The NAT of Casey in view of Boden are arranged such that entities in the external networks appear to one of the VPNs to have an address within an address range of the respective VPN (fig. 2 and col. 3, lines 27-56 and col. 4, lines 8-56. see also Col. 5, lines 4-28).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yasin Barqadle whose telephone number is 571-272-3947. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on 571-272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Yasin M Barqadle/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2456